

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WESTERN DIVISION  
5:17-cv-616-FL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *ex rel.*,  
SANTHOSH REDDY DEVARAPALLY,  
M.D., BRINGING THIS ACTION ON  
BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA, AND THE STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA,

Plaintiff,

v.

FERNCREEK CARDIOLOGY, P.A., a  
North Carolina Professional Association,  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY HOSPITAL  
SYSTEM, INC., MATTHEW A. DAKA,  
M.D., SELVARATNAM SINNA, M.D.  
SURIYA BANDARA JAYAWARDENA,  
M.D., MANESH THOMAS, M.D.,

Defendants.

**ORDER**

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant Manesh Thomas, M.D.'s *Motion to Excuse in Person Attendance at Mediation* [D.E. 153]. Having considered the motion and noting no objection to the *Motion*, the Court ORDERS as follows:

1. Dr. Thomas shall be permitted to participate in the court-hosted settlement conference on June 9, 2024 by remote means as described in the *Motion*.
2. Dr. Thomas' counsel shall participate in the conference in person.

Dated: May 27, 2025



Robert T. Numbers, II  
United States Magistrate Judge